

Customer No. 35743



Docket No. 57173-1322

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Duchon et al.

Confirmation No. 1545

Serial No.: 10/636,003

Filing Date: August 7, 2003

For: **PRESSURE SLEEVE ASSEMBLY**

Examiner: Kennedy, S.

Group Art Unit: 3767

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

ISSUE FEE TRANSMITTAL

Sir:

In payment of the Issue Fee mailed in the present application by the Notice of Allowance dated April 18, 2006, Applicants respectfully submit the following documents herewith:

- Completed Part B-Fee(s) Transmittal (PTOL-85B);
- Certificate of First Class Mailing under 37 C.F.R.. § 1.8 dated July 18, 2006
- Response to Examiner's Reasons for Allowance
- Return Receipt Postcard

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee(s) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 18, 2006

Aaron S. Haleva, Reg. No. 44,733
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date: July 18, 2006

Signature: *C. Caggiano*
Carrie L. Caggiano

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In connection with payment of the Issue Fee in the present application as per the Notice of Allowance dated April 18, 2006, Applicants respectfully submit the following comments by way of response to the Examiner's statement for reasons of allowance which were included in the Notice of Allowability:

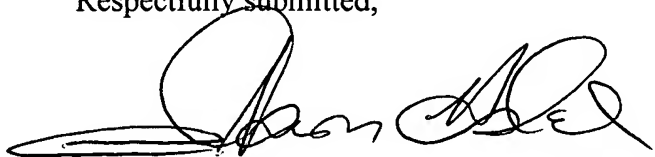
Applicants would like to emphasize their belief that the claimed subject matter is novel over the prior art, and that the distinctions from, and advantages over, the prior art stated by the Examiner in her Statement of Reasons For Allowance are exemplary only, and not a comprehensive analysis of the various novel features of the claimed invention vis-a-vis such art. Thus, for example, Applicants assert that upon a careful and detailed reading of the Duchon patent, US 6,099,502, one would not find any grounds for an obviousness rejection under MPEP 2144.04, or, for example, upon a careful and detailed reading of the Reilly et al. patent, US 5,899,885, one would not find any basis for anticipation. Thus, any first blush consideration by

the Examiner to perhaps do so was a function of the ongoing evolution of the Examiner's understanding of the present invention, and was ultimately rejected as the Examiner's thought process developed.

No fees are believed due with the submission of this paper. However, the Director is authorized to charge any additional fee(s) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 18, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aaron S. Haleva', is written over a horizontal line.

Aaron S. Haleva, Reg. No. 44,733
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